

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-28 (Canceled).

29 (Currently amended). A catheter for use in a system for intraluminal treatment of a selected site in a body of a patient by at least one treating element movable in the catheter by means of pressurized fluid, the catheter comprising:

a first elongated tube having a lumen at least partially closed at its distal end and sized to slidably receive the treating element;

a second elongated tube in parallel relation to the first elongated tube and having a lumen open at its distal end and sized to receive a guidewire; and

a third elongated tube for receiving the first and second elongated tubes and defining a space between the third tube and the first and second tubes, the space comprising a fluid return lumen in fluid communication with an opening in the lumen of the first elongated tube at the distal end of said ~~first elongated tube thereof, said space not opening to outside said catheter at the distal end thereof.~~

30 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 29 wherein the distal end of the third tube extends beyond the distal ends of the first and second tubes.

31 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 29 wherein the distal end of the second tube is coterminous with the distal end of the third tube, both of which extend beyond the distal end of the first tube.

32 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 29 wherein the lumen of the first elongated tube has an inside diameter less than twice the outside diameter of the treating element.

33 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 29 wherein the first elongated tube includes an internal barrier to block the passage of the treating element out of the first tube.

34 (Original). The catheter of Claim 33 wherein fluid communication between the first and third tubes is established by an aperture in the internal barrier.

35 (Original). The catheter of Claim 30 wherein the distal end of the third elongated tube is tapered.

36 (Canceled).

37 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 35 wherein the distal end of the third tube tapers to a narrow, flexible atraumatic tip.

38-41 (Canceled).


42 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 29 wherein said first elongated tube, said second elongated tube, and said third elongated tube are substantially the length of the catheter.

43 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 29 further comprising a treating element which is slidingly received in the lumen of said first elongated tube for intraluminal treatment of a selected site in a body of a patient.

44 (Currently Amended). A catheter for use in a system for intraluminal treatment of a selected site in a body of a patient by at least one treating element movable in the catheter by means of pressurized fluid, the catheter comprising:

a first elongated tube having a lumen at least partially closed at its distal end and sized to slidingly receive the treating element;

a second elongated tube in parallel relation to the first elongated tube and having a lumen open at its distal end and sized to receive a guidewire; and

 a third elongated tube for receiving the first and second elongated tubes and defining a space between the third tube and the first and second tubes, the space comprising a fluid return lumen in fluid communication with an opening in the lumen of the first elongated tube at the distal end ~~thereof~~ of said first elongated tube,

wherein said first elongated tube, said second elongated tube, and said third elongated tube are substantially the length of the catheter.

45-46 (Canceled).

47 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 44 further comprising a treating element which is slidingly received in the lumen of said first elongated tube for intraluminal treatment of a selected site in a body of a patient.

48 (Previously presented). A catheter for use in a system for intraluminal treatment of a selected site in a body of a patient by at least one treating element movable in the catheter by means of pressurized fluid, the catheter comprising:

a first elongated tube having a lumen closed at its distal end and sized to slidably receive the treating element;

a second elongated tube in parallel relation to the first elongated tube and having a lumen open at its distal end and sized to receive a guidewire;

a third elongated tube for receiving the first and second elongated tubes and defining a space between the third tube and the first and second tubes, the space comprising a fluid return lumen in fluid communication with the lumen of the first elongated tube at the distal end thereof; and

a treating element which is slidably received in the lumen of said first elongated tube for intraluminal treatment of a selected site in a body of a patient.

49 (Previously presented). The catheter of Claim 48 wherein said fluid return lumen is sealed to the outside of the catheter at the distal end thereof.